

NSC BRIEFING

23 March 1955

PATTERN OF BLOC POL SUPPLY TO
COMMUNIST CHINA

Re Para ⁵7--Actual ownership of tankers

1. ONI view of the actual ownership of Polish tankers is that the use of Polish flag merely disguises their true ownership by Communist China.
2. FI representatives have informally expressed similar views, although admitting that this would be difficult to prove beyond a reasonable doubt, for legal purposes.
3. China Branch of OCI believes that ONI's view is probably correct. a) Papers on the Polish tanker PRACA, seized in October 1953 by the Chinese Nationalists, indicate it was almost certainly owned by the Chinese Communists. b) The two other tankers flying the Polish flag--KARPATY and WSPOLPRACA--are also probably owned by the Chinese Communists, since both operate exclusively in the